

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1 and 4-30 are now in the application. Claims 14-25 have been allowed. Claims 1, 12, 13 and 28 have been amended. Claims 2-3 have been deleted.

In item 4 on page 2 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 1-2, 4-11, 26-27 and 29-30 have been rejected as being anticipated by Bruel (US Pat. No. 5,559,043) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

The rejection has been noted and claim 1 has been amended in an effort to reach allowable claims quickly. More specifically, the features of claims 2 and 3 have been added to claim 1.

Since claim 3 is allowable, as indicated by the Examiner in item 12 on page 4 of the Office action, claim 1 is, therefore, believed to be allowable. Since claims 4-11, 26-27 and 29-30 are ultimately dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well. Claim 2 has been cancelled.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement in item 12 on page 4 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 3, 12, 13 and 28 would be allowable if written in independent form

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including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The feature of claim 3 has been added to claim 1. Claims 12, 13 and 28 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's statement in item 13 on page 4 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 14-25 are allowed.

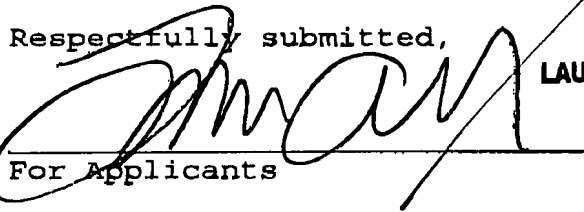
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 4-13 and 26-30 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and

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Respectfully submitted,



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